

Meeting

He disclosed that the group of which both men were apparently members would be holding a meeting March 11 at a Kansas City, Missouri hotel. The group were to reserve rooms under the name of a textile concern.

The two switched their conversation and began discussing airplanes after the third man, sitting at a separate table, apparently signaled them that someone was in earshot of their discussion. The FBI informant testified the man sitting separately stared at him, in such a manner that he got up and left the room in an attempt to locate the police.

The man who followed the informant is believed to be about 35 years old, and is described as having a deformed nose, fair hair and flushed cheeks. Six feet tall, and weighing about 200 pounds, he is believed to be left handed. The fingers of his left hand were either scarred or tattooed.

Followed

However the man followed, first standing between the informant and a stairway leading by the RCMP office on the ground floor of the airport, and then approaching him as he began to relate his story on the telephone to a corporal at RCMP headquarters downtown. The informant hung up and walked to one of the eight ready rooms on the second floor. After walking through two rooms, he again entered the lobby of the airport. His follower was nowhere in sight.

Agent Nelson accompanied the informant and his lawyer to the airport the night of Feb. 27, and made his investigation of the scene, as well as taking testimony.

Testimony of the Winnipeg man has again sparked rumors that Oswald was but a cog in the plot to assassinate Kennedy. One theory holds the plan was originated by a right-wing organization and had the support of at least some members of the Dallas police force. A recent series of articles attempted to prove that circumstances show the assassination and subsequent killing of Oswald were financed by a well-heeled organization, and received support of at least some law enforcement officers connected with events of the week and last fall that shocked the world.

This is the story that appeared exclusively in the Free Press May 2, 1964 which intensifies the New Orleans' District Attorney's office now investigating a reported plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

# Probe Kennedy

## Death Here

### FBI Man Visits Winnipeg To Check Assassination Clue

An agent of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation has been in Winnipeg checking out a lead that might shed some light on the mystery still surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy.

Merry Nelson, an FBI agent stationed in Grand Forks, North Dakota, registered at a downtown hotel two months ago while he questioned a Winnipeg man about a conversation overheard at the Winnipeg International Airport Feb. 13.

The testimony is now believed in the hands of a Presidential Commission headed by U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren, investigating the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Mr. Kennedy in Dallas, Texas, last Nov. 22.

The local man, whose name is being withheld for security reasons, was in the Horizon Room of the airport to keep a business appointment the afternoon of Feb. 13, when he overheard the conversation of two men seated at a table behind him.

From their conversation, he deduced that both had inside information about Mr. Kennedy's assassination, but when he attempted to leave the room and notify police he was followed by a third man, who had been sitting separately watching both the conversationalists and himself.

He managed to elude his pursuer, and took the matter to his lawyer. The lawyer called the United States Consulate in Winnipeg, who then called in the FBI.

In testimony to Agent Nelson, the man said both men were already in the room and in conversation when he took a seat at a table in front of them. After placing his order, he noticed the pair were discussing the Kennedy's death and began to pay attention to what they said.

Piped in music in the room made it impossible to hear the complete conversation but notes and conversations forwarded to the FBI have ap-

parently given the investigating agency a good idea of the men's appearance.

One of the pair, described as heavy set, between 45 and 50, with dark bushy hair and bushy pronounced eyebrows appeared to be asking his companion for details of the shooting. He was wearing heavy, plastic framed glasses.

His companion, believed to be 50 or older, was viewed only from behind by the informant. However a partial description indicated he wore a light tweed suit and two-tone brown shoes, had a badly pock-marked neck and reddish-blond hair. He wore a hearing aid in his right ear, and spoke with a slight accent.

In their conversation, both men expressed concern over how much of the plot to kill Kennedy Lee Harvey Oswald has passed on to his wife. Oswald — who is suspected of being the man who fired at the president — was arrested shortly after the shooting. He was shot and killed two days later, while being transferred from one jail to another in Dallas.

The pair apparently agreed that even should the commission currently investigating the assassination conclude Oswald was guilty, the FBI would not stop its investigation.

### 'Psycho'

A man named Isaacs, and his relationship with Oswald were also discussed. The pair found it odd that a man of Isaacs' background would become mixed up with Oswald, whom they described as a "psycho."

Isaacs had apparently been spotted near the president in TV film of Mr. Kennedy's arrival in Dallas. At the time of the airport conversation, he was being followed by a man named either Hoffman or Hochman, who was to "eliminate" him and destroy a 1953 white automobile Isaacs had in his possession.

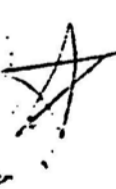
The elder of the two men, who the FBI reportedly believed to be from the Southern United States, told the informant "we have made money at the disposal now that of any other time."

1/11/64  
Winnipeg  
FBI  
Grand Forks  
North Dakota

1/11/64

Warren

tr. St. Lo. ye. K. Ci. tr. pe. Ct. its. up. in. te. se. m. su. sh. co. on. co. er. tur. for. wa. cu. its. an. the. dis. we. fac. qu. sug. wa. it. the. in. not. set. Ca. the. fact.



Tom requested that I write what I remembered of the Harold R. Isaacs Investigation.

In June, when Tom came through Dallas from the Archives, he gave me a copy of the documents which remained classified as of March 1967. I immediately started lining them up by date, by city, and by investigative agency, to observe possible patterns. When I observed that Gen. Walker was "investigated" in Boston by the F.B.I. on May 21, 1964, the thought occurred to me that Harold R. Isaacs, who was investigated in Boston by the F.B.I. on May 22, 1964, might also be from Dallas. Current directories did not list him but I discovered that 1961 through 1963 directories did list a Harold R. Isaacs (wife Emily A.), no occupation. No two city directories and/or telephone directories gave the same address. Several lines above the listing for Harold R. Isaacs there would be a listing for Emily A. Isaacs at the address given for Harold R., but showing an occupation— clerk, Republic National Life Insurance Company. Harold R. disappeared in 1964 but Emily A. remained with the same occupation but has continued to show the address of the family of H. H. Isaacs who own H. H. Isaacs Plumbing Co. I discovered that the H. H. Isaacs were parents of Harold R. Isaacs. My reasoning was that if Emily A. and Harold R. were divorced, she would not have moved into the home of his parents. Bill Boxley made part of the following discoveries. Emily Isaacs has not worked for Republic Ins. Co. since 1961 or 1962 and yet she is listed as working there in the 1966 city directory. Harold R.'s parents "think" he is living in or near Houston.

Please read the clipping from the Winnipeg paper re the conversation overheard in the airport concerning Oswald and Isaacs and the meeting in Kansas City. There is no connection between Chuck Isaacs\* (in Ruby's notebook) and our Harold R. Isaacs. I determined this in June. I can send you all my reasoning on that point if you would like, but it is very conclusive.

\* Chuck is first cousin  
of Harold Isaacs. (from Boxley)  
JE

*Win  
+  
Furie*

M E M O R A N D U M

September 18, 1967

TO: FILE  
FROM: LOUIS IVON, Chief Investigator

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On 9/13/67 I received a telephone call from a MR. RICHARD from Winnepeg, Canada, Opr. 72, Area Code 204, Telephone number 339-5652.

MR. RICHARD stated he remembered that at the airport that there was some talk about some sadistic injury inflicted on both parties. He stated that #2 subject was DAVE FERRIE. He stated he knows this might not make much sense, but he remembers it.

TO: ARCHIVES

There REALLY  
is a  
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in  
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## Winnipeg man to testify in JFK trial

By VAL WERIER  
Tribune Associate Editor

If there was a conspiracy to kill President John F. Kennedy, as claimed by Jim Garrison, New Orleans district attorney, a Winnipeg man may figure prominently in the trial.

He is Richard Elvin Giesbrecht, who overheard two men in Winnipeg discussing what appeared to be an involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. Giesbrecht will be flown by Garrison's office to New Orleans soon to appear as a key witness in the trial of Clay Shaw a wealthy, retired businessman, charged with conspiracy to murder President Kennedy.

I interviewed Mr. Giesbrecht and found him a pleasant, rotund man of 35. He is a successful insurance agent, and wore a well-cut dark blue suit and blue tie. He wears dark-rimmed glasses, has grey-blue eyes, and a fresh complexion.

He has a straightforward manner and is highly regarded by his former employer. Now he runs an agency. He is married and has four children.

It was in the afternoon of Feb. 13, 1964, that Mr. Giesbrecht overheard the conversation in the Horizon Room of the Winnipeg International Airport. This was less than three months after Kennedy had been assassinated.

Mr. Giesbrecht had gone to

the Horizon Room to kill time while waiting for a client. He sat at a table by the window and was working over some figures when he overheard snatches of conversation by two men sitting at a table behind him.

One man had an unusual face, as if one side had been burned. The skin appeared shiny and tight. He had pronounced, bushy eyebrows and appeared to wear a toupee. He could see him clearly, for he was opposite him in the table behind. The other man with his back toward him had a pockmarked neck and a Latin accent.

There was a background sound of music and talk of patrons in the Horizon Room. He was startled to hear references

about Oswald — Lee Harvey Oswald, the man arrested for killing Kennedy — and he strained to hear the conversation.

The two men were talking about other people as well but Mr. Giesbrecht recalled several remarks along this line:

"How did he get mixed up with a psycho like Oswald?"

Mr. Giesbrecht started making notes of the conversation. There was another remark "about having a film which showed this guy Isaacs standing near the Kennedys when they landed in Texas. He was seen near Kennedy and his wife."

The men seemed concerned about this.

Mr. Giesbrecht recalls another

question about "how much Oswald had passed on to his wife." The response was that Oswald wasn't on speaking terms with his wife.

He also remembered that a man with the busy eyebrows looked out on the airfield at a small plane parked there and remarked: "Oh, there's a plane like the one I told you about during the war."

MR. Giesbrecht called the RCMP from the airport. However, he hung up after he turned around and saw a large man just two feet away and staring at him. He was a man whom he had noticed staring at him while he was taking notes in the Horizon Room. He felt he

See JFK TRIAL, Page 2

### Behind Fort Garry

# CNR planning big

The four-day search came to an end Friday. Sixteen bodies were found huddled together in a tunnel 3,000 feet from the

From Page One

## JFK trial

had something to do with the two. Mr. Giesbrecht left the building.

Mr. Giesbrecht has told his story to the FBI. But it was three years later that he saw something that got Harrison, the New Orleans prosecutor, keenly interested in his story.

On Feb. 23, 1967, he was jolted when he noticed a photo of a man on the front page of The Tribune. He recognized him immediately. He was the man with the pronounced eyebrows whom he had overheard in the Horizon Room.

On reading the story, he learned that the man was David W. Ferrie, 45, of New Orleans, a pilot who had been found dead the day before. Ferrie had been interrogated and was under close observation by Harrison's office. He was to be arrested the next week, according to Mr. Garrison, on the charge of conspiring with Mr. Shaw in the murder of President Kennedy.

Garrison has stated that Ferrie was the getaway pilot in the assassination. Garrison has charged that the plot took place in Ferrie's apartment in New Orleans in September 1963. Kennedy was killed on Nov. 22, 1963.

Mr. Giesbrecht saw the photo in The Tribune when he was visiting his then employer Peter J. Thiessen, manager of the Montreal Life Insurance Co., at the Misericordia Hospital.

Mr. Thiessen remembers the incident clearly. The paper had just been delivered and was lying on his bed.

"He got quite a shock when he saw the picture," recalls Mr. Thiessen. "He wasn't his normal healthy color."

Then Giesbrecht told Mr. Thiessen: "This is the fellow I saw."

Mr. Thiessen had been told the entire story by Mr. Giesbrecht a year ago. He had wondered whether the remarks that Mr. Giesbrecht overheard were significant. Now he felt the picture made them so.

"I certainly believed everything he had told me," said Mr. Thiessen. "I have known him for about 15 years, and his family much longer. It was obvious to me now that he had recognized the man in the paper."

Since then, Garrison, or his aides, have talked to Mr. Giesbrecht long distance several times from New Orleans. Garrison says he has uncovered definite evidence that Ferrie was in Winnipeg on Feb. 13, 1964.

It will be interesting to know whether the forthcoming trial of Mr. Shaw will reveal why Mr. Ferrie did come to Winnipeg and the identity of the man who was with him, when Mr. Giesbrecht overheard the conversation four years ago.

months after the federal bureau of mines recommended a sister shaft be sunk to provide better ventilation, an escape route and various fire controls.

H. A. Schrecengost, a bureau official in Indianapolis, Ind., said the recommendations were made by A. M. Evans, a mining engineer, last August.

### FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS

In Minneapolis, W. R. Pearch, a Cargill vice-president, said the company requested the inspection and that some recommendations were followed, with others "in the process of approval and implementation."

Jim Bowe, a public relations man for the mining company, added Friday night: "There was no specific suggestion in the entire observation which could have prevented the fire."

Raymond R. Ashby, a coal mine safety expert from Kentucky who was on the mine floor when the first 16 bodies were found, said the men apparently died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Throughout the search operation, mine officials kept an optimistic air.

When rescue workers explored a half mile into the caverns without sighting the men, Clayton Tonnemaker, another Cargill vice-president, said: "It's an excellent sign that they are far away."

His optimism was banked on a hunch the miners had thrown up a barricade of salt in an effort to seal themselves off from the fire in the timber-lined shaft.

Friends and relatives waited, hopes faltering as the long ordeal wore on. At the final announcement a mother collapsed

months after the federal bureau of mines recommended a sister shaft be sunk to provide better ventilation, an escape route and various fire controls.

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"I am so concerned with the gravity of this charge and the club continuing to exist, I am concerned for the safety of the man assaulted and the possibility of similar acts occurring."

### EYES 'POP'

The victim, unidentified, was beaten until his eyes "popped," said the prosecutor.

## A night to

MONTREAL (C) — The police of station 16 won't forget the night they brought in members of the Devil's Discos motorcycle gang for questioning.

The male and female gang members caused siren-shrieking police cruisers to rush reinforcements to the east end station Thursday night as they went on a howling, frenzied spree that left damages estimated at \$500.

Insp. J. P. Guindon, of the Montreal police central division said no decision has been taken as to what charges might be laid.

The trouble began for station 16 when patrolling cruisers stopped the Lagune Bleue discotheque in answer to a call from its owners.

Arriving at about 10 p.m. they hustled off 68 young persons for questioning about damage they are alleged to have caused the premises.

In the police station, 16 of the youngsters, 16 of them juv

## UFO: three night

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. (CP) — A beef-cattle farmer has seen an unidentified flying object in the sky northwest of his back porch three nights this week.

Alfred Sturzenegger, who rises at 3 a.m. every morning to check on his herd of beef cattle, says the object appeared Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and disappeared at 4:05 a.m.

Axel Sjoberg, reporter for the Peterborough Examiner, watched the object with Mr. Sturzenegger Thursday.

"Vaguely cigar-shaped, it changed in size from a pinpoint of dim light to a flaring thing about the size of a small cup," he said.

"The pulsating blue cone seemed to shift position from the front of the phenomenon to the back while a red mass

## Go-go girls make

girls working in Winnipeg today and about 25 "spares" waiting for a chance to perform.

The average wage for a union girl is \$90 to \$125 per week, although some non-union girls earn \$15 per performance.

Police officials say they have had the "usual number of complaints" about the girls' performances on stages, but they have had no official complaints against the girls for prostitution.

An official of the Manitoba Liquor Commission said:

Continued F

"We have received complaints about some of the girls and we always check out each complaint. But so far we haven't found any girl who could bring charges against for an indecent performance."

Managers of the hotels and lounges which hire the "controversial girls" say they are not worried about what the girls do after the performance.

action was more severe. On one of Prince Philip's brief visits to Ottawa, no press conference was scheduled but the gallery members at least came over for a drink. Government House agreed to recommend this if assured that it would be a purely social affair, about which nothing would be written. The gallery gave the assurance, and Prince Philip came. One member (now dead) defied the ban and wrote the story anyway, to the annoyance of His Royal Highness, the embarrassment of Government House, and the fury of fellow members who had been not only shamed and betrayed, but also scooped. The culprit was haled before the executive and suspended for two weeks. (Whether the sentence was carried out is debatable; he left next day on vacation, and resumed normal duty when he got back.)

Another incident was Mackenzie King's speech to the 1948 gallery dinner, reaffirming his intention to retire (which he'd already announced in a public address months before). Old as the news was, the Canadian Press thought it too important to ignore. The CP bureau chief telephoned the prime minister next morning (Sunday) and got his permission to print it. Naturally, the prime minister didn't mind, but the rival British United Press was furious—all the more so because the PM's speech, or a rehearsal of it, was first delivered to a luncheon given by the BUP bureau chief, Norman MacLeod. However, the gallery took no action. This incident may have been the origin of the view that secrecy at gallery dinners is intended to conceal not important news, but only indiscreet behavior.

Even the latter convention has not always been respected. Recently in a magazine article, extracted from his new book, Max Ferguson described (quite inaccurately, according to my own recollection) a *contretemps* involving George Drew, the Conservative leader. Ferguson was present at that gallery dinner only as a guest and was perhaps never cautioned about the taboo on reporting; but the magazine is edited and published by ex-members of the gallery and is responsible for what it prints.

Admittedly, some journalists carry the off-the-record commitment to an extreme. Probably the ultimate was achieved when the gallery decided, by majority vote, that its own proceedings should be secret. But the dissenting minority proclaimed at the time that it had no intention of obeying this rule, and there has never been any serious attempt to enforce it.

At the opposite extreme, some maintain that "nothing is ever off the record," and that no reporter should ever go to any gathering where an off-the-record commitment is accepted. Carried to its logical conclusion, this would mean no honest reporter could ever accept an invitation to dinner. Some other guest might innocently mistake him for a gentleman, and let fall a remark not intended for publication.

BLAIR FRASER

## Did this man happen

Here's what a Winnipeg salesman can add to James Garrison's "conspiracy" case

THE WINNIPEG International Airport terminal, with its 42,546 square feet of Solex glass curtain walls, looks almost light enough to take off. Inside this \$18,000,000 monument to the Department of Transport the decor is determinedly modern, with \$35,000 worth of art objects including enormous geometric murals by prairie professors and metal sculptures imported from Toronto. There are fountains, birch trees, chairs that seem to have been made of chicken wire, a split-level black-carpeted lounge called the Horizon Room, and, under a milk-white ceiling illuminated by 8,000 fluorescent tubes, a marble-tiled mezzanine the size of a football field.

On February 13, 1964, in this improbably exotic setting, where James Bond might have struggled with SMERSH, an overweight Winnipeg salesman named Richard Giesbrecht was caught up in the maelstrom that had begun in Dallas three months before and continues to this day. Giesbrecht believes he was a witness to nothing less than a meeting of two men who had conspired to kill President John F. Kennedy, and swears that a third man, a burly, suitably ominous figure with a smashed nose and flushed cheeks, played a bizarre cat-and-mouse game with him all over the mezzanine to frighten him into silence.

### "Too big" for FBI

Ever since, Giesbrecht, a palpably sincere and rational 35-year-old Mennonite with four children, has swung between fear and frustration. Fear that the disclosure of his identity — his name is revealed here publicly for the first time — would lead to harassment by cranks, or worse. (He is aware that 20 or so people tenuously linked to investigations of an alleged conspiracy have died since November, 1963.) Frustration because he believes that the FBI deliberately squelched his story. Giesbrecht talked to an agent named Merryl Nelson whom he contacted through the U.S. consulate in Winnipeg. He says that Nelson remarked, "This looks like the break we've been waiting for" — only to tell him a few months later to forget the whole thing. "It's too big," Nelson is supposed to have said. "We can't protect you in Canada."

Then, last February 23, visiting a hospitalized friend, Giesbrecht saw a newspaper photograph of David W. Ferrie, a New Orleans pilot who had been found dead, ostensibly of a hemorrhage caused by a ruptured blood vessel — although he had left behind two suicide notes. There was

something about the photograph that struck Giesbrecht. There was something familiar about the man's inordinately bushy eyebrows. Then it came to him that this was one of the men he had encountered at the airport three years before.

The picture's caption revealed that, before he died, Ferrie had told reporters that he'd been pegged as a "getaway pilot" by Jim Garrison, the New Orleans district attorney, who was conducting an independent investigation of Kennedy's death. Garrison concurred. "We had reached a decision to arrest him," he said. "Apparently we waited too long." Then the flamboyant D.A. added three lines that reverberated around the world: "My staff and I solved the assassination weeks ago. I wouldn't say this if we didn't have the evidence beyond the shadow of a doubt. We know the key individuals, the cities involved and how it was done."

### The DA calls

All that was last February. Throughout the spring and summer, Garrison had neither put up nor shut up, although he professed himself ready to reveal his findings at the trial this fall of Clay Shaw, a prominent New Orleans businessman arrested on March 1 on charges of conspiring to assassinate John F. Kennedy. (Most of the U.S. press attempted to discredit Garrison's case against Shaw, but a panel of three judges and a grand jury ruled that there was sufficient evidence to hold him for trial.) Garrison believes that Shaw, Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby and others — most of them hair-trigger anti-Castroites — conspired to kill Kennedy because of his plan for a *détente* with Cuba, and because Kennedy was cracking down on CIA-supported anti-Castro activity in Dallas, Miami and New Orleans. There is the chilling suggestion that, some time in the early fall of 1963, in New Orleans, a sizeable group of Right-wing extremists, deranged adventurers and Cuban exiles abruptly switched targets — from Castro to Kennedy.

With the help of the Winnipeg *Free Press*, which had printed an account of his story without using his name, Giesbrecht finally got in touch with an authority who wanted to use his testimony, and who did not, as he puts it, "just tell me to shut up about it": Jim Garrison. One of Garrison's assistants called Giesbrecht in March and expressed extreme interest in what he had overheard. There were more calls from the D.A.'s office to check details. In late September Giesbrecht

# son John Kennedy's assassins?

agreed tentatively to testify at Clay Shaw's trial, although Mrs. Giesbrecht was afraid to see her husband get mixed up in the case.

What spurred Giesbrecht to agree to testify was a call he had got in early summer from Garrison himself. "He told me that my evidence would be a great help to him, and that the pieces locked perfectly into place, although he didn't explain how. He confirmed that Ferrie had been in Winnipeg at the time and he said that no people from Winnipeg were involved. Maybe these men were making connections to Minneapolis or Chicago. They just happened to be here when I ran into them."

On that day, February 13, 1964, Giesbrecht had set up an appointment with a client who worked at nearby Bristol Aircraft. He arrived at the airport early, shortly after 2 p.m., to have his first look inside the new terminal. He sauntered around, went into the Horizon Room, had one drink, a Moscow Mule, walked out to have a look at Gerald Gladstone's sculpture, *Solar Cone*, in a fountain courtyard near the lounge, called his client, found he had more time to kill, returned to the lounge, sat at the same table half-way along a wall of windows and ordered a Seven-Up. Two men had taken the adjacent table. His back to them, Giesbrecht planned his sales approach and did some figuring on his weekly calendar pad. At some point, probably at about 2.45 p.m., he became aware that his neighbors were discussing the assassination in a way that seemed to implicate them.

He started to listen, then to take notes. It seemed to him that one of the men had a "Latin" accent; the other, the one he later concluded was Ferrie, an "American" accent. The voices were rather high-pitched, precise-sounding. He sensed that both men were homosexuals.

## Oswald a pawn

"I got the impression that a man named Isaacs was to have been the assassin or one of them, but that he had taken on Oswald to do the dirty work," Giesbrecht says. "In the opinion of these men Oswald was a psycho. One of them said, 'How did Isaacs get mixed up with a psycho like that?' The man I think of as Ferrie wondered how much Oswald had passed on to his wife or, for that matter, anyone else. Being mixed up with Oswald had been a foolish thing. Ferrie said that Isaacs could be seen on some film of Kennedy getting off a plane shortly before the assassination. These men assured each other that when a man named Hochman or Hoffman got to Isaacs all loose ends would be tied up. He would also

make sure that a certain car was destroyed. Ferrie said there was more money now at their disposal than ever. They discussed a meeting to be held at the Townhouse Motor Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 18. There had been no meeting since early November of 1963."

During all this time Giesbrecht was hunched over his calendar pad, straining to pick up the low voices over the piped-in music, the muffled shriek of engines through the twin-paned windows and the conversation of about a dozen other people in the big dim room. He was aware of some girls at a corner table who laughed a lot.

## "Auntie" flies in

There was more. The meeting would be registered under the name of a textile firm. Ferrie mentioned an "aunt" who would be flying in from California. A name that sounded like Romeniuk came up several times. Ferrie asked about paper or merchandise coming out of Nevada. Latin Accent said it was too risky and that a house or shop had been closed down at a place called Mercury. He said that "a good shipment" had reached Caracas from Newport. There was some speculation that investigation of Kennedy's death would not end if the Warren Commission found Oswald guilty.

Giesbrecht managed to get a fast look at the man he later said was Ferrie. "I told the FBI that he had the oddest hair and eyebrows I'd ever seen," he says. "The eyebrows were wide and sort of streaky. The hair was very shiny and it started quite

far back on his head." (According to press reports, Ferrie wore a bright red wig and false eyebrows to conceal burns he had suffered years before. Giesbrecht says he didn't notice the color of his hair.) It seemed to him that the man resembled Stan Laurel "when he gets that look as if he's going to cry." Giesbrecht didn't really see the second man's face; they were sitting back to back. He noticed that his chin and neck were badly pock-marked and that he wore a hearing aid in his right ear. Both men were in their middle or late 40's; both wore light tweed suits and loafers.

Perhaps Giesbrecht was doing too much craning around in his chair. At any rate, two things happened almost simultaneously. The first was that he became aware he was being stared at by a man sitting alone across a corner of the lounge, in front of a metal drapery separating the lounge and the dining room. The second was that the conversation behind him changed, became innocuous. He can remember Ferrie saying that he had flown an airplane like one on the apron outside the window — a small, executive plane, Giesbrecht thinks it was, with two propellers.

"I felt a wee bit jittery or excited," he says. "I felt uneasy, uncomfortable. I put on my overcoat. The conversation had stopped. This third man was just staring at me. He was sort of an ugly man. He had a nose that seemed flat, a fighter's nose. It was a piggy nose. He was very fair, with very flushed cheeks. He was in his early thirties, a big man, odd-looking. I had to walk by him to get out."

Giesbrecht, feeling uneasy, hurried past Gladstone's *Solar Cone* into the

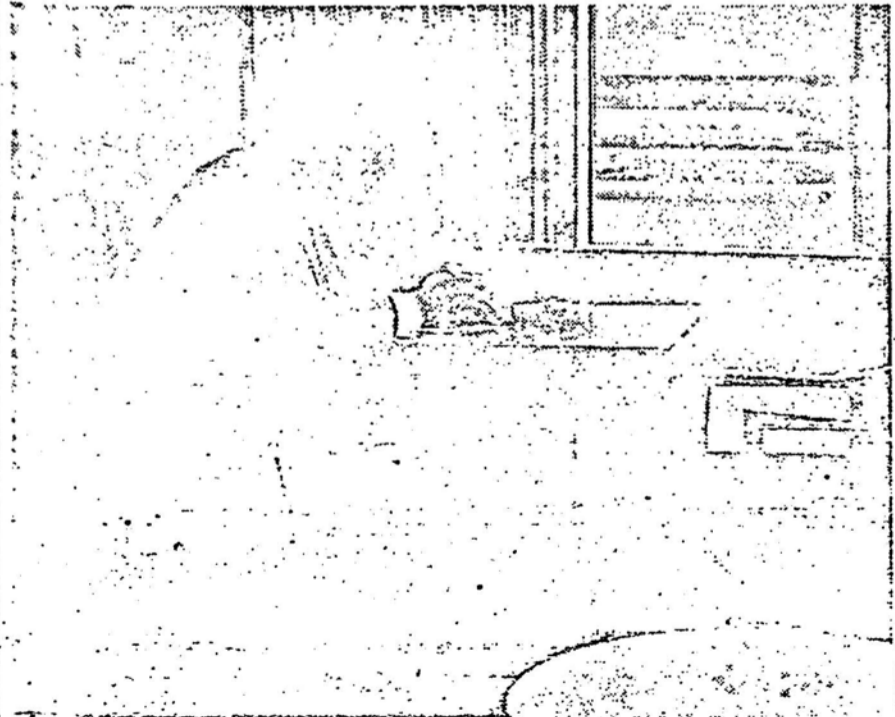
mezzanine, turned to a newsstand that was in the middle of the waiting area. He asked where police in the area were. He saw an RCMP detachment get there. Giesbrecht moved toward a covered terminal and the area. He stopped. On the steps at the near end was the man who had stared at him in the Horizon Room. He was staring at Giesbrecht.

"I felt uneasy," Giesbrecht turned around, went to the newsstand and asked for the phone book. He turned the book to the mezzanine again, walked 100 feet or so again past a Walter sculpture that crowded in another corner of 10 telephones on the tile wall. Giesbrecht picked up the sixth phone, called the RCMP number, got introduced himself to the right.

## Tattooed s

"The same man, just about a yard away from me. So I just hurried away. I don't remember said to the RCMP. phone I felt too uneasy about his face, but I noticed markings on his fingers were tattoos. I was in the flight room, at gate where there were a lot of people. I stayed in there for a while. I went out again and into the north end of the terminal into the parking lot from the airport and it was a foolish thing. I was thinking about my client. I was when I got about the airport I took them up and buried them and I don't know notes as best I could and hid them in a drawer."

Giesbrecht doesn't have any explanations about the man but he says he believes a conspiracy killed Kennedy. He is glad to be able to talk especially since he has dealings with the man. He had three children, a child that was very bright and nobody could bug a person like that to hear what it's about. Shut it down. If it's serious, authorities in a prison



At this table in Winnipeg's airport, Richard Giesbrecht took notes while overhearing two men who may have been in on JFK's assassination.

GLORY CHILDS

# assassins?

far back on his head." (According to press reports, Ferrie wore a bright red wig and false eyebrows to conceal burns he had suffered years before. Giesbrecht says he didn't notice the color of his hair.) It seemed to him that the man resembled Stan Laurel "when he gets that look as if he's going to cry." Giesbrecht didn't really see the second man's face; they were sitting back to back. He noticed that his chin and neck were badly pock-marked and that he wore a hearing aid in his right ear. Both men were in their middle or late 40's; both wore light tweed suits and loafers.

Perhaps Giesbrecht was doing too much craning around in his chair. At any rate, two things happened almost simultaneously. The first was that he became aware he was being stared at by a man sitting alone across a corner of the lounge, in front of a metal drapery separating the lounge and the dining room. The second was that the conversation behind him changed, became innocuous. He can remember Ferrie saying that he had flown an airplane like one on the apron outside the window — a small, executive plane, Giesbrecht thinks it was, with two propellers.

"I felt a wee bit jittery or excited," he says. "I felt uneasy, uncomfortable. I put on my overcoat. The conversation had stopped. This third man was just staring at me. He was sort of an ugly man. He had a nose that seemed flat, a fighter's nose. It was a piggy nose. He was very fair, with very flushed cheeks. He was in his early thirties, a big man, odd-looking. I had to walk by him to get out."

Giesbrecht, feeling uneasy, hurried past Gladstone's *Solar Cone* into the

mezzanine, turned left and headed for a newsstand that forms an island in the middle of the 300-foot-long waiting area. He asked a saleslady if there were police in the airport. There was an RCMP detachment, Room 24. To get there Giesbrecht started to walk toward a covered bridge joining the terminal and the administration unit. He stopped. On the middle of three steps at the near end of the bridge was the man who had been staring at him in the Horizon Room. He was staring at Giesbrecht again.

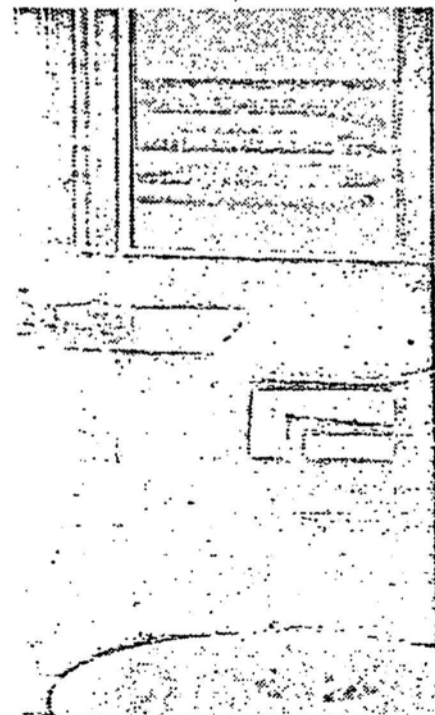
"I felt uneasy," Giesbrecht says. He turned around, went back into the newsstand and asked where the nearest phone was. He walked into the mezzanine again, turned left and walked 100 feet or so, turned left again past a Walter Yarwood metal sculpture that crouches over a fountain in another courtyard, to a bank of 10 telephones mounted on a blue tile wall. Giesbrecht picked up the sixth phone, called the Winnipeg RCMP number, got on to a corporal, introduced himself and glanced to his right.

## Tattooed stranger

"The same man, the third man, was just about a yard away. He was right on me. So I just hung up and walked away. I don't remember how much I said to the RCMP. As I hung up the phone I felt too uneasy to look at his face, but I noticed that he had markings on his fingers. I think they were tattoos. I walked into a large flight room, at gates two and three, where there were a lot of people. I stayed in there for a while and then I went out again and down the stairs at the north end of the mezzanine and into the parking lot. I drove away from the airport and then I did a sort of foolish thing. I never bothered about my client, and not only that, when I got about a mile away from the airport I took the notes and tore them up and burned them. Ask me why and I don't know. I rewrote the notes as best I could that night at home and hid them in a dresser drawer."

Giesbrecht doesn't have any pat explanations about what he overheard, but he says he believes that a conspiracy killed Kennedy. He says he is glad to be able to help Garrison, especially since he found his earlier dealings with the FBI upsetting. "I've had three years of feeling like a little child that wants to convey something, and nobody's listening," he says. "It bugs a person. It does. They're happy to hear what you have to say but then it's, 'Shut up, because it's too big.' If it's something that's too big for the authorities, then the United States is in a pretty bad way, isn't it?"

JON RUDDY



Giesbrecht took notes while on JFK's assassination.

GERRY CALIUS



# Told for the First Time

# SUPPRESSED

By WILLIAM CONDIE, WILLIAM DICK, IAIN CALDER, PEARL TRACHTENBERG and PAUL FEIS

"This could be the break we've been looking for," FBI agent Merle Nelson told insurance salesman Richard Giesbrecht, who had just given him evidence that more than one man had been involved in a plot to kill President Kennedy.

But Giesbrecht, of Winnipeg, Canada, was told by the same agent three months later: "This is too big. Forget the whole thing. We cannot guarantee your safety in Canada."

The FBI man had been called in by Giesbrecht's attorney in February 1964, three months after the assassination, at the height of U.S. investigations to find out exactly who was behind the Dallas slaying.

And he was told how Giesbrecht had overheard two men — one later identified as David Ferrie, the dead pilot named as a conspiracy suspect by New Orleans DA Jim Garrison — discuss problems with their involvement in a plot to assassinate the President.

Agent Nelson sent his report to Washington, where it was passed to the Warren Commission — never to be officially revealed.

Yet today Giesbrecht's evidence is backed up on two major points.

On May 2, 1964, his local newspaper, the Winnipeg Free Press, printed the story. They didn't reveal his identity but they told how he had heard the name of one man involved in the conspiracy — Isaacs.

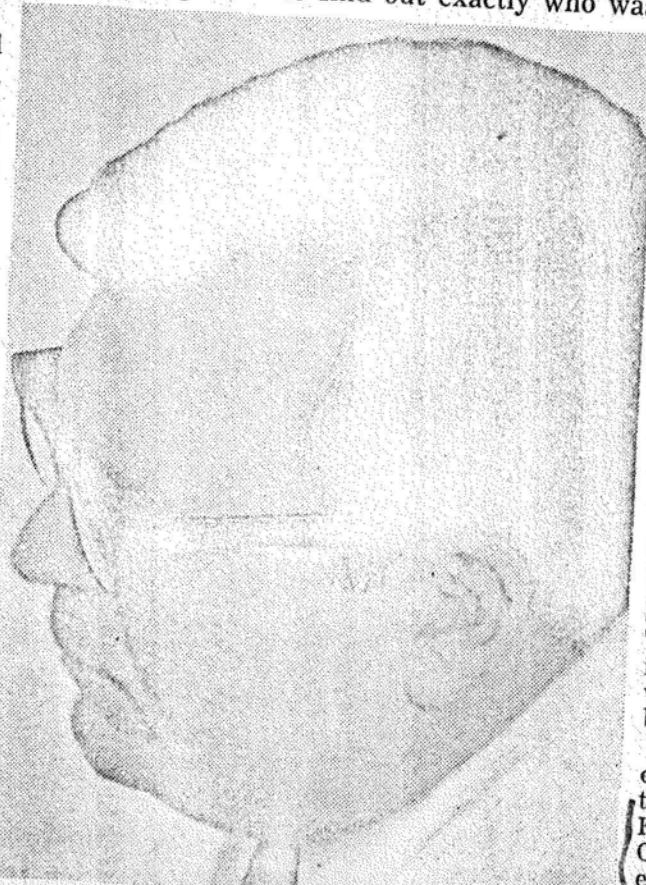
That was long before any member of the public could have known the names of possible assassins.

But on September 27, almost five months later, the name came up again — in the Warren Commission report.

What the Commission didn't mention was the Giesbrecht evidence.

It found, instead, that Lee Harvey Oswald had been the lone assassin.

Also, last December 18, Louis Ivon, Chief Investigator for Jim Garrison, who is continuing his probe into an alleged Kennedy conspiracy, stated that his office has been trying to locate the same man — Isaacs.



# 'This Could Be the Break Agent... 'But It's Too

The amazing story of Richard Giesbrecht has never been in the U.S. until now. Early in 1964, Giesbrecht, a 35-year-old insurance salesman, overheard a conversation which probably not acted alone in the Kennedy assassination. But the evidence, passed to an FBI agent, ended up in secret vaults. And the only publicity given was in two Canadian papers: a local daily paper, the Winnipeg Free Press, and a leading monthly magazine.

Now the story that's too big to be kept quiet is being told. ENQUIRER flew Giesbrecht from Winnipeg to the U.S. for giving Day, November 23. And for two days reporters questioned him on every detail. Investigators also doubt the FBI, Jim Garrison's office and many other sources could have cited the result, exclusively for ENQUIRER readers.

ing at an airport in Texas. I couldn't catch all that was said because of the way the men were talking, but both men sounded very disturbed and upset at this. "Apparently Isaacs should have been in a different place altogether. And the two men seemed to feel that because Isaacs had been seen in the film with Kennedy, and was known to have been a friend of Oswald's and had been to parties with Oswald, that even if they found Oswald... or something — a 1958 Dodge... ed when the last meeting... swered there had been no... "They went on to say... meeting in the Town Hou... City, on March 18, 1964, I... answer all their questions... what went wrong."

via (Bentley)

locate Negro girlfriend of Ferrie's

been the lone assassin. Also, last December 18, Louis Ivon, Chief Investigator for Jim Garrison, who is continuing his probe into an alleged Kennedy conspiracy, stated that his office has been trying to locate the same man — Isaacs — in Dallas.

And Garrison, himself, gives major support to Giesbrecht's story. He confirms that Ferrie had been in Winnipeg at the time of the overheard conversation.

To get the full story behind the amazing Giesbrecht evidence, the witness was brought to The ENQUIRER office to tell it in detail.

And now, exclusively for ENQUIRER readers, Giesbrecht reveals just what happened.

His story begins on Feb. 13, 1964. Giesbrecht had gone to the then new \$18 million terminal at Winnipeg International Airport to meet a client, who worked nearby. The appointment was fixed for 3 p.m. but Giesbrecht arrived around 1:45 p.m. to look around the new building.

Then he went to the Horizon Room, a split-level dining area and bar, to relax over a drink.

Giesbrecht said: "Two men were sitting at a table right next to me. I didn't pay any special attention to them until I sat down."

The men were facing each other across the table. Giesbrecht had his back to the men, his chair only two feet from one of them.

He took out his appointment book and made notes on his sales approach for the coming insurance deal.

The noise level in the bar was low, with soft background music, punctuated by occasional giggles from a group of women seated 25 feet away.

It didn't prevent Giesbrecht from hearing most of the conversation carried on by the two men behind him. And what he heard made him forget about insurance.

Their general topic was the Kennedy assassination — and one sentence suddenly jogged Giesbrecht's attention.

One of the men, with a Latin American accent, remarked: "Oswald had that black bitch at the party, and she could endure more pain than anyone."

Said Giesbrecht: "I found I had started listening to the conversation pretty sharp."

"The other man replied: 'Yes, he's had that black bitch. And he's been hanging around with Isaacs.'"

Isaacs' name later appeared briefly in the Warren Report.

Giesbrecht said: "The Latin American asked how Isaacs could get mixed up with a psycho like Oswald."

Giesbrecht, almost unable to believe his own ears, strained to catch the conversation.

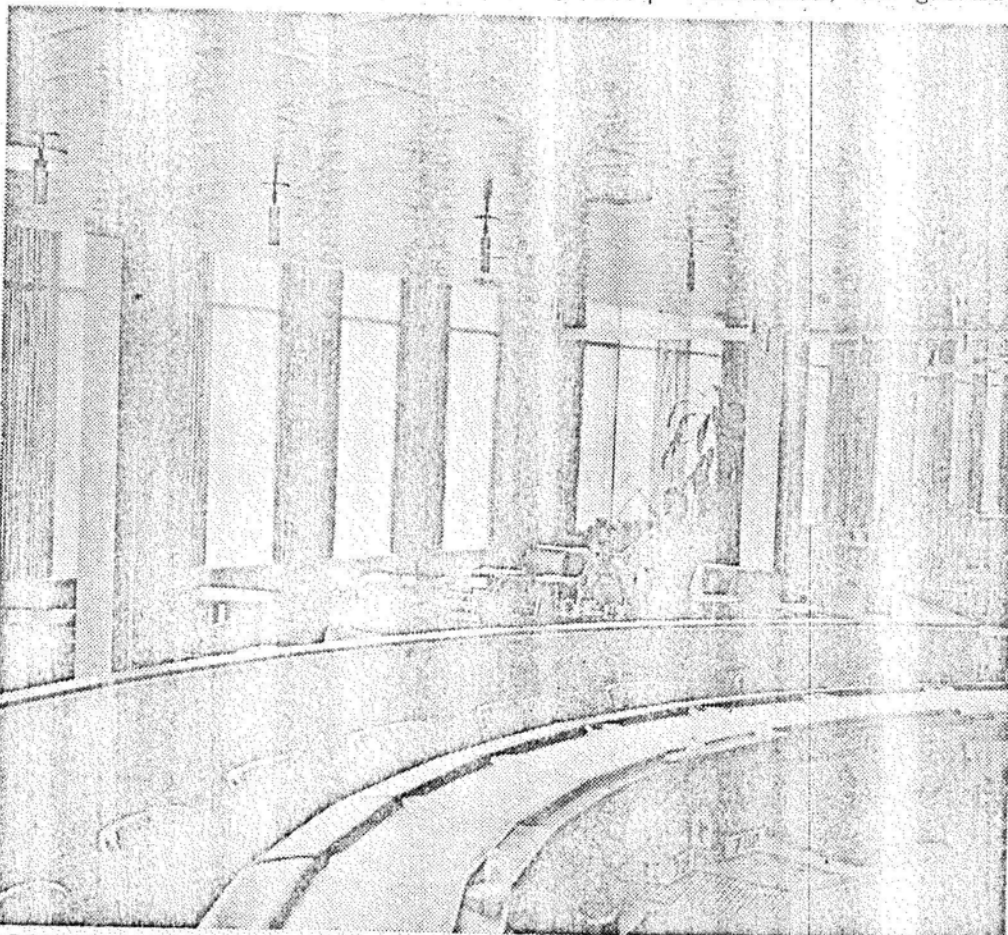
The man sitting back-to-back with him had a defi-

**HAS EVIDENCE:** Richard Giesbrecht told the FBI what he knew about the assassination of JFK. Giesbrecht's photo also appears on page one.

nite Latin American accent, and the other man, sitting opposite the Latin American, seemed to have a clear American accent.

Giesbrecht said: "I can say it was not a New York accent and it wasn't a deep south drawl, but I can't identify it except that it sounded well-educated."

He went on: "The Latin American said that Isaacs had been seen in a film of President Kennedy land-



**CONVERSATION SITE:** Horizon Room lounge, Winnipeg International Airport, where Giesbrecht says he heard two men discuss JFK's assassination.

ent place altogether. And the two men seemed to feel that because Isaacs had been seen in the film with Kennedy, and was known to have been a friend of Oswald's and had been to parties with Oswald, that even if they found Oswald was the lone assassin, the investigation wouldn't stop.

"Then they got back to discussing that 'psycho' Oswald, and his association with Isaacs. One of them said Isaacs should never have gone as far as he did with a person like Oswald.

"They seemed to regard Oswald as a parasite on their group and the American said that Isaacs had just let Oswald do his dirty work for him.

"My impression was that the 'dirty work' was the assassination.

"It seems Isaacs should have been one of the assassins but had chickened out and let Oswald do it."

Giesbrecht, who guessed both men were homo-

sexuals because of effeminate voices, was making notes and jottings on his appointment book.

He said: "Then I heard a man say that as soon as a Hoffman or Hochman — I'm not sure which — got in touch with Isaacs they'd find out exactly what took place. They didn't make it clear who this Hoffman or Hochman was.

"The two men went on to discuss a car. It seemed important and this was another thing Hoffman or Hochman was going to check into. He was to make sure it would be destroyed."

"The car apparently was at the assassination scene.

"They seemed confident that this would be taken care of by Hoffman . . . that his job was to look after the loose ends of the assassination.

"It was mentioned that it was a marked car, a television car

meeting in the Town City, on March 18, 196 answer all their questio what went wrong."

Giesbrecht also re went on to ask how mi Nevada and he was to out of Mercury, Nevada that Mercury is closed

"When I later asked agent about this, he s paper was slang for mo

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Said Giesbrecht: "The got back to the Town H tor Hotel in Kansas C said they would be regis der World Trading, We or something like that. The some mention of an 'aunt' coming in for the from San Francisco.

"They also mentioned like Mr. Romaniuk. It frequently during the wh versation. I only heard th ican use the name, and He might have been call Romaniuk."

All this time Giesb notes. Not a full report key words.

He added: "I was so saying I didn't think I haven't."

About half a dozen ti drapes hanging by the around at the two men. airport runway, he was the corner of his eye.

He could see the Am back of the Latin Amer "The American look

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Giesbrecht also remembers that the American  
went on to ask how merchandise was coming out of  
Nevada and he was told: "There's no paper coming  
out of Mercury, Nevada." The Latin American added  
that Mercury is closed down.

"When I later asked the FBI  
agent about this, he said that  
paper was slang for money.

"The Latin American went on  
to say: 'There's no paper coming  
out of Mercury because it was  
too dangerous or too risky. We've  
more money at our disposal now  
than at any other time.'

"The mention of money seem-  
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a nice shipment had arrived in  
Caracas from Newport. He did  
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Said Giesbrecht: "They again  
got back to the Town House Mo-  
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said they would be registered un-  
der World Trading, World Wide  
or something like that. There was  
some mention of an 'aunt' or  
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"They also mentioned a name  
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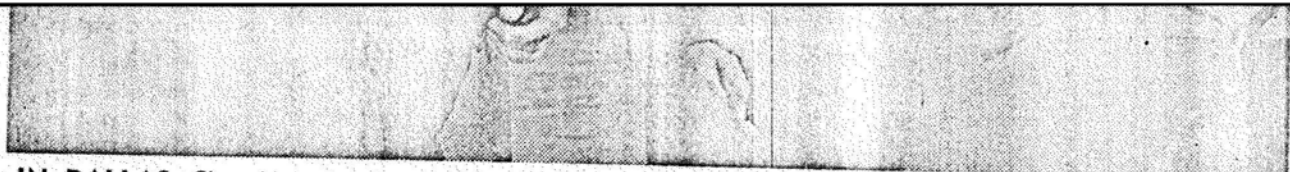
All this time Giesbrecht had been jotting down  
notes. Not a full report — just names or places or  
key words.

He added: "I was so interested in what they were  
saying I didn't think I would ever forget it. And I  
haven't."

About half a dozen times, partly hidden by heavy  
drapes hanging by the windows, Giesbrecht peered  
around at the two men. By pretending to look at the  
airport runway, he was able to see the men out of  
the corner of his eye.

He could see the American full face but only the  
back of the Latin American.

"The American looked odd — he had the oddest



**IN DALLAS:** Shortly before the assassination, President John F. Kennedy, Governor John Connally and Jacqueline Kennedy are greeted at Dallas Airport.



**PLOT SUSPECT:** David Ferrie is one of two men identified as dis-  
cussing Oswald and others believed  
to have been involved in JFK killing.

hair and eyebrows I have ever  
seen. He looked as if he had  
mustaches on top of his eyes in-  
stead of eyebrows. They looked  
like false eyebrows. His hair  
looked very odd.

"It looked as if the man had  
been in a fire and had false hair  
put on. He was wearing a pair  
of large, heavy glasses with  
heavy plastic frames. It was a  
face I couldn't forget.

"All I could see of the Latin  
American was the back of his  
head and part of one side of his  
face. There was something in his  
right ear that could have been  
a hearing aid. He had brownish  
red hair which seemed to be  
very heavily oiled, and his neck  
was very badly pockmarked."

Both men were in their late  
or middle 40s.

Perhaps Giesbrecht's attention  
became too obvious. Because  
suddenly he noticed he was being  
stared at by a man sitting alone  
across the room.

And just as suddenly the con-  
versation, which had been about  
mid-sentence. The American went on to talk about  
how he used to fly a plane like the one sitting outside  
the terminal. Giesbrecht said: "The two things made  
me feel very uneasy. I grabbed my coat and my notes  
and got out of the Horizon Room, paying the waiter  
as I walked out."

He went to a cigarette stand and asked a woman  
serving there where the police office was at the air-  
port. She told him there was a Royal Canadian Mount-  
ed Police unit in an adjoining building.

But on the route to the police office, Giesbrecht  
saw the man who had been staring at him in the bar.

The nervous insurance man changed direction  
and headed for a bank of 10 phone booths in the main  
hallway. And there he dialed the RCMP office in  
Winnipeg. Said Giesbrecht: "I wanted to tell them



**OSWALD**

plexion, but his nose was strange — as if the bridge  
was missing. He wore a wool overcoat and had one  
hand in a pocket.

"I glanced at the other hand and saw something  
like dark tattoos on the fingers."

Giesbrecht had seen no contact between this third  
man and the other two but he felt they were tied in  
and the man had warned the others that Giesbrecht  
was listening.

"The change in the conversation and this man  
following me, made me sure there was some link,"  
he said.

The man's presence made Giesbrecht put down the  
telephone in mid-conversation. Then he walked back  
in the direction of the Horizon Room and went into a  
room where travelers wait for the flights to be called.  
As he sat down, he looked around and saw the man  
walk further down the hall.

For about three minutes Giesbrecht waited. Then  
he got up and looked around. There was no sign of  
the man.

So he quickly walked to his car, outside in the  
airport park, then drove off — his business appoint-  
(Continued on next page)

what had happen-  
ed.

"I got through  
and asked to speak  
to a senior man. I  
got a Corporal Pol-  
lok. I don't know  
how much I man-  
aged to tell him  
when I looked up  
and found the star-  
ing man was stand-  
ing right beside  
me.

"There was no  
one else at the  
phone booths and  
the man said noth-  
ing.

"He was about  
30, around 6 feet  
tall and well-built.  
He was very blond,  
with a fresh com-

# PRESSED JUNK MURDER EVIDENCE

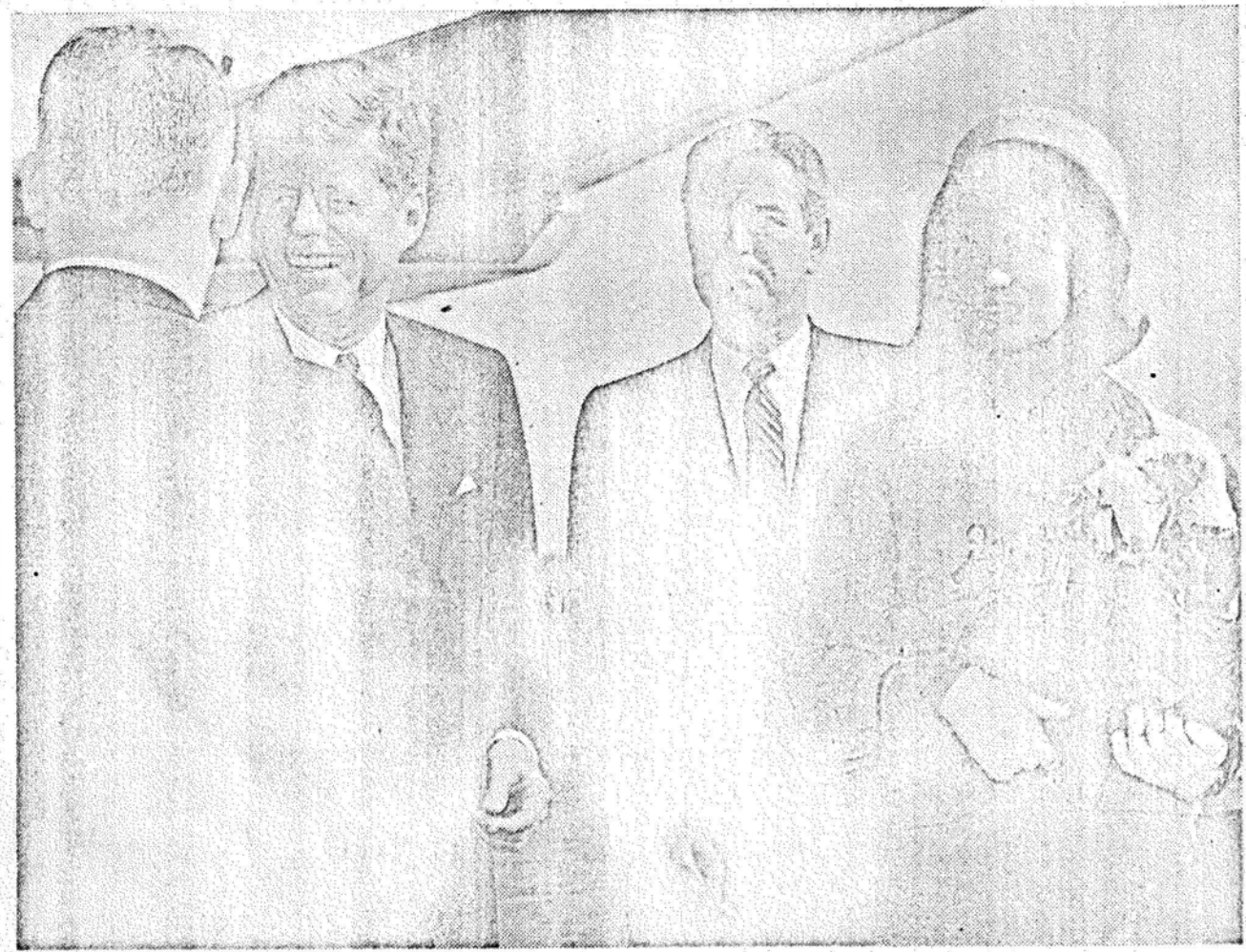
## ould Be the Break We're Looking for,' Said FBI .. 'But It's Too Big'

Story of Richard Giesbrecht has never been told in the  
Early in 1964, Giesbrecht, a 35-year-old Canadian in-  
an, overheard a conversation which proved Oswald had  
in the Kennedy assassination. But this fantastic evi-  
to an FBI agent, ended up in secret Washington files.  
publicity given was in two Canadian publications — a  
er, the Winnipeg Free Press, and later Maclean's, a  
ly magazine.

that's too big to be kept quiet is being told at last. The  
w Giesbrecht from Winnipeg to the U.S. on Thanks-  
vember 23. And for two days reporters quizzed and  
on every detail. Investigators also double-checked with  
arrison's office and many other sources. This is the ex-  
clusively for ENQUIRER readers.

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"They went on to say that when they held their  
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went on to ask how merchandise was coming out of  
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that Mercury is closed down.



IN DALLAS: Shortly before the assassination, President John F. Kennedy, Governor John Connally and Jacqueline Kennedy are greeted at Dallas Airport.

of someone in mind but he wouldn't say what. "But what he did stress over and over again was: 'This is the break we've been looking for.' "It was clear he was referring to the assassination of the President."

In all, Giesbrecht spent six hours with Nelson, and, as they parted, Nelson said: "This will be passed on to the Warren Commission. We'll be meeting again in the near future. Just keep it quiet until then."

But Giesbrecht has never seen the agent since and he doesn't know what happened with his evidence.



**CRITIC:** Author Harold Weisberg attacks Warren Report.

led there and the station manager, Richard Vincent, taped the story in sound only.

Giesbrecht agreed to call Vincent two days later to see if the station wanted the interview on videotape.

But when he did so, a third man came on the line. It was agent Nelson.

"I recognized his voice as that of the agent. Nelson suggested on the phone that I didn't make my information public. He said: 'It could jeopardize your family and yourself. We have no jurisdiction over giving proper protection.'

"Nelson said quite clearly: 'It's too big.' "Giesbrecht added: "I was angry and asked what could be so big that the FBI couldn't protect me. I asked who and what I should fear.

"Nelson said he couldn't tell me, but if he were in my shoes he wouldn't say anything."

Station manager Vincent confirmed to The

**INVESTIGATOR:** Jim Garrison is following Giesbrecht's leads. sources to check it out. "The night Giesbrecht phoned me back to ask if I was going to use the story, Nelson happened to be in the station. He frequently visited the office on various matters. He was there purely by chance.

"I mentioned to Nelson that I had Giesbrecht on the phone and told him to pick up an extension. Nelson did so — I knew he was interested in the case.

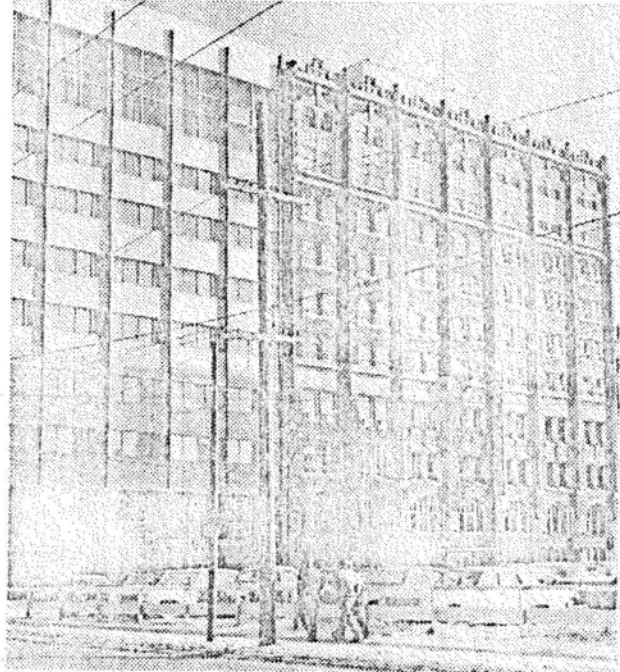
"Nelson made it clear to Giesbrecht who he was and we held a three-way conversation."

After this call, Giesbrecht kept quiet through 1965 and 1966.

But in the spring of this year, the incident flared again . . . even more sensationally.

While visiting his boss in the local hospital, Giesbrecht saw the front page of a newspaper on the bed. There was a big picture staring at him.

Said Giesbrecht: "The picture was that of the American I had seen at the airport discussing the



**HOTEL** Marlborough in Winnipeg, Canada, where Giesbrecht told FBI his shocking story.



**SUSPECT:** Clay Shaw. Giesbrecht has offered to be a witness at his trial.

now that I am in no danger from any conspirator. I would now be prepared to appear as a witness at the Clay Shaw trial for conspiracy in the JFK assassination next month, if Garrison thought it would help."

After studying Giesbrecht's statement, The ENQUIRER spoke to FBI agent Nelson, but apart from confirming he had interviewed Giesbrecht, he would only say: "The information was passed immediately to Washington. I cannot comment on it. That is up to Washington."

But a spokesman at FBI headquarters said: "We can't discuss an individual case. The results of our investigations into the assassination were passed on to the Warren Commission and are now in the National Archives."

The Jim Garrison investigators are treating the Giesbrecht evidence on top level.

Louis Ivon, chief investigator, said: "We are looking in Dallas for Chuck Isaacs and a Paul Hoffman in connection with our investigations. We are taking it very seriously."

Isaacs had been mentioned briefly in the Warren Commission report when Larry Crafard, an employee of Jack Ruby, was asked if he knew the name. "It doesn't mean anything to me," he said.

Author Harold Wiesberg, whose books have bitterly criticized the way the Warren Commission reached its verdict, told our reporters: "The Giesbrecht case isn't one that surprises me.

"A great deal of evidence was suppressed because it did not fit in with the finding the Commission reached — that Oswald acted alone."

self last September 13 and said he had definitely established that David Ferrie was in Winnipeg just when I said.

"He said he knew who the men were that I'd described but he wouldn't elaborate."

Added Giesbrecht: "I'm sure there's been a cover-up somewhere and that if Jim Garrison is not stopped he will bring it out into the open."

He explained why he had changed his mind about keeping his name a secret.

"I have decided to identify myself and tell my story because I feel that the American public should know what happened.

"Also, although I realize there may be a few cranks who will try to get in touch with me, I accept

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(Continued from preceding page)

ment forgotten completely. Later he phoned his client to apologize and make a new appointment. "But I was scared," admitted Giesbrecht. "I drove for maybe a mile. Then I stopped the car and took out my notes and burned them. I didn't like being mixed up in this. It seemed dangerous for me and my family."

When Giesbrecht got home to his wife and four children, he waited until the kids got to bed before discussing it. His wife's idea was to forget the whole thing. But Giesbrecht decided to rewrite his notes on what he could remember, just in case he ever decided to make the conversation public.

The next day Giesbrecht telephoned a friend, who is an attorney. Together, they decided they must tell the FBI and both went to the U.S. Consulate in Winnipeg.

Last December 10 the consul, John Morris, told The ENQUIRER: "I can recall a man and his attorney coming to my office to discuss this. It was the attorney who called in the FBI."

A few days after his visit to the consulate Giesbrecht was told by the attorney that FBI agent Merle Nelson from Grand Forks, N. Dak., was in town to interview him.

All three met in the Marlborough Hotel and, after Nelson had produced his identification, Giesbrecht told his tale.

Then the agent and Giesbrecht drove to Winnipeg Airport and went over the whole thing again in detail.

Said the insurance salesman: "The FBI agent kept asking me if the American had a southern drawl. He obviously had something or someone in mind but he wouldn't say what."

"But what he did stress over and over again was: 'This is the break we've been looking for.'"

"It was clear he was referring to the assassination of the President."

In all, Giesbrecht spent six hours with Nelson,

# Winnipeg Free Press

## City Man Now Convinced Plot Suspect Was Here

VOL. 74 — NO. 145 PRICE 10c WERE 15c WINNIPEG, FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1967 FORECAST: COLD



INVESTIGATOR: Jim Garrison is following Giesbrecht's leads.



DAVID FERRIE: Airport Bar Visitor?

### Claims He Saw Ferrie At Winnipeg Airport

By PIETER VAN BENNEKOM

New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's attempts to prove that the assassination of president John F. Kennedy was a conspiracy may soon focus on Winnipeg.

The current New Orleans hearings strengthened a Winnipeg man's belief that a conversation he overheard at Winnipeg International Airport three years ago was connected with the Dallas tragedy.

The man, who has asked the Free Press to keep his identity a secret for security reasons, feels certain that Mr. Garrison is not yet aware of what he knows and has been trying to contact him for the past three days, so far without results.

The Winnipeg man feels certain that on Feb. 13 at the Winnipeg airport he saw David Ferrie, the pilot

REPORT of new evidence in Winnipeg Free Press on March 17, 1967, left Giesbrecht unnamed.

ENQUIRER that Giesbrecht had offered his story to the station.

"I was impressed with the apparent honesty of the man and felt he was telling the truth," he said. "But I decided not to run his story. We are a small station and we did not have the resources to check it out.

"The night Giesbrecht phoned me back to ask if I was going to use the story, Nelson happened to be in the station. He frequently visited the office on various matters. He was there purely by chance.

leans. Giesbrecht revealed: "Since then Garrison people have been in touch maybe a dozen times.

"I've been invited down to give the Garrison office all my evidence, but I told them I wasn't sure they could keep me protected.

"I knew by this time that 20 or so people linked with the assassination had already died. And I didn't want to be next.

"Jim Garrison called me himself last September 13 and said he had definitely established that David Ferrie was in Winnipeg just when I said.

"He said he knew who the men were that I'd described but he wouldn't elaborate."

Added Giesbrecht: "I'm sure

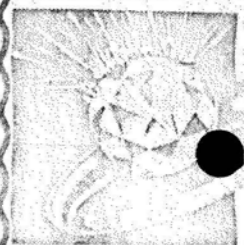
assassination conspiracy. The caption told me it was David Ferrie, suspected by DA Jim Garrison of being the getaway pilot in the conspiracy plot. He had been found dead.

"There was no doubt in my mind that this was the same man. The hair, the eyebrows and the whole face were the same."

And a couple of days later he told this to the same Winnipeg Free Press reporter who had written the original story. Again it made the front page.

But this time the information was phoned by the newspaper to Jim Garrison's office in New Or-

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